## **REMARKS**

The present application has been revised to reflect the 371 status.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version with markings to show changes made".

Favorable action on the merits is solicited.

Respectfully submitted.

Hiromu SUGINO

By Warren M. Cheek, Jr. Registration No. 33,367

Attorney for Applicant

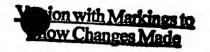
WMC/dlk

Washington, D.C. 20006-1021

Telephone (202) 721-8200

Facsimile (202) 721-8250

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## DESCRIPTION



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## NOVEL PROTEIN AND UTILIZATION THEREOF

5 Technical Field

The present invention relates to a novel protein having a specific amino acid sequence, having PDZ domains and/or WW domains, and being expressed specifically in the brain, a DNA comprising a DNA region encoding said protein, a process for producing the protein, and use of the protein and the DNA.

Background Art

Heretofore, a large number of physiologically active
substances have been isolated and identified, and their
functions are being elucidated. Some of them are known to
exhibit various activities in a wide variety of organs or
cells. The various activities in a wide variety of organs
or cells appear generally via receptors to which the
physiologically active substances bind, but there are many
cases where whether the combination of the physiologically
active substances binding to the receptors is identical in
all organs and cells or specific to each organ or cell is
not elucidated.

Some physiologically active proteins have PDZ domains

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molecules, which comprises comparing the case where the protein according to item 1, the protein according to item 2, the partial peptide according to item 6 or a salt thereof is introduced into cells expressing the protein according to item 17 or a salt thereof, activin receptors or activin intracellular information transmission molecules, with the case where the protein according to item 1, the protein according to item 2, the partial peptide according to item 6 or a salt thereof and a test compound are introduced into cells expressing the protein according to item 17 or a salt thereof, activin receptors or activin intracellular information transmission molecules, measuring the amount of the protein according to item 1, the protein according to item 2, the partial peptide according to item 6 or a salt thereof bound to the protein according to item 17 or a salt thereof, activin receptors or activin intracellular information transmission molecules in the cells in both the cases,

22. A method for screening a compound or a salt thereof
20 inhibiting or promoting a binding of the labeled protein
according to item 1, the labeled protein according to item
2, the labeled partial peptide according to item 6 or a
labeled salt thereof to the protein according to item 17 or
a salt thereof, activin receptors or activin intracellular
25 information transmission molecules, which comprises

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comparing the case where the labeled protein according to item 1, the labeled protein according to item 2, the labeled partial peptide according to item 6 or a labeled salt thereof is contacted with a membrane fraction of cells expressing the protein according to item 17 or a salt thereof, activin receptors or activin intracellular information transmission molecules, with the case where the labeled protein according to item 1, the labeled protein according to item 2, the labeled partial peptide according to item 6 or a labeled salt thereof and a test compound are contacted with a membrane fraction of cells expressing the protein according to item 17 or a salt thereof, activin receptors or activin intracellular information transmission molecules, by measuring the amount of the protein according to item 1, the protein according to item 2, the partial peptide according to item 6 or a salt thereof bound to the membrane fraction of the cells in both the cases, 23. A method for screening a compound or a salt thereof inhibiting or promoting a binding of the protein according to item 1, the protein according to item 2, the partial

peptide according to item 6 or a salt thereof to the protein according to item 17 or a salt thereof, activin receptors or activin intracellular information transmission molecules, which comprises comparing the case where the protein according to item 1, the protein according to item